

January 6, 2009  
Meeting Minutes  
Beaver Meadow Golf Advisory Committee

Members Present:

Chris Mulleavey  
Betty Hoadley  
Michael Dellolacono  
David Croft  
Jennifer Kretovic  
Fran Hunt  
Dick Holden  
Bob Vachon  
Mark Coen  
Bernard "Sid" Chase  
Ed Deshaies

Others Attending:

Chris Jacques  
Phil Bilodeau

A call to Order

**5 Minutes of Public Input**

None

Chris asks if there is a motion to approve the Draft minutes from the December 4, 2008 meeting or any questions about the minutes.

Betty moves approval of the minutes from the December 4, 2008 Meeting.

Dave seconds the motion.

Motion Carries 8-0

**Rates**

Sid presents Rate Sheet reflecting Committee's desire to hold rates for Non Resident Seniors in order to close the gap between Residents and Non-Residents.

Sid also presents an FY09 Expense sheet reflecting anticipated cuts in order to ensure that Expense do not exceed Revenues.

Committee discusses presented rates and expenses.

Topics discussed:

Trend in Permit Numbers, trending down

Perception of number of permits, there is a perception that we have upwards of 500 permits. The reality is we have 386 permits counting Family permits as two Permits.

Historical Permit numbers, at one point we did have 500 permits.

Mark speaks of the recent budget process as being one of minimizing cost to maximize income and asks if there has been a lack of marketing.

Betty points to Planet Fitness' ability to demonstrate usage by hour and asks if Golf Course may do same to encourage usage of open time.

Jennifer asks if there is a marketing plan. Sid responds yes he can share it at an upcoming meeting.

Jim Howard's response to the inquiry about a payment plan, Chris has no firm commitment from Finance but did learn it can be done. Chris will explore starting a program in October notifying current permit holders prior to the start.

Specials, Ed shares that the most popular special is the senior special and encourages expanding it to other days of the week. Chris cautions that discounting and specials simply trains golfers to play at the discounted and adds no real revenue to the picture and in fact may reduce it.

Betty suggests putting Specials on the web.

Phil explains budget calendar. It is hoped the Committee can make a recommendation today in order that a report to Council may be made by January 20 for inclusion on the February Consent agenda.

Ed asks if it is possible set rates earlier so that people rate shopping in the fall know what our rates for the following year will be. Phil answers it would be difficult to set rates before knowing what the end of year data is.

Chris Mulleavey strongly supports the payment plan and thinks the Committee should support it in writing to the Finance director if need be.

Bob Makes a motion that the committee makes a recommendation of no increase in any of the rates, holding the 2009 season rates at the 2008 level.

Betty seconds.

Discussion

Bob feels an increase in new permit holders would make up the difference an increase in rates would bring.

There is concern by some on the Committee that the current economic climate may make it difficult for people to afford an increase in permit prices.

Mark is concerned that we make acceptable revenue number. Staff is already projecting significantly less in revenue than anticipated necessitating cuts in expenses.

Betty recognizes the Committee is advisory in nature and there may be disagreement on the committee on this issue. If Staff feels strongly that higher rates are needed and presented to Council, the Council representative should have rates taken from the Consent agenda and scheduled for a public hearing at which time various members and the public could speak directly to Council.

Chris cautions not increasing rates would necessitate further cuts to the Budget.

Bob asks why a rate increase to Season Permits but not Daily Fees, and questions our assumption that the economy won't rebound in which case we will get more members more than make up the difference a rate increase will produce.

Further discussion of the economy, past rate increases and lack thereof

Dave moves the question

The Chair recognizes Sid

Dave protests "Robert's Rules"

The Chair recognizes Sid explaining he has had his hand up for some time.

Sid answers Bob's question regarding raising Season Permit Fees and not Daily Fees. Daily fees for Green Fees and Golf Cars are at market rate, the Season Permit fees lag well behind the local market Rate for Golf Memberships in excess of \$200 on adult rates.

The Chair calls for an end of discussion and a vote.

Betty requests a Roll Call Vote.

Before voting the Chair clarifies that a yeas vote would send a recommendation of no rate increase of any kind for 2009 to City Council

Those in favor of the Motion

Jennifer

Dave

Bob

Fran

Betty

Those opposed

Michael

Dick

Chris

Mark

Motion Carries 5-4

### **Old Business**

Tabled until such time as Matt Upton is Present

Chris asks if there is a motion to adjourn.

Sid would first like to thank the Committee for their time and consideration of Staff's proposed rates.

Fran Moves adjournment

Betty Seconds,

Motion Carries. 9-0

Meeting is set for February 3, 2009

**7:30 AM**

Beaver Meadow Clubhouse

Agenda:

Public Input

Approval of Minutes

Old Business

Meeting Adjourned.